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Proposal of the Research Work

Role of Women's Farmer and Agriculture Labors in Economic Development in Vijayapura District: A Sociological Study

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2021

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1. Introduction

Agricultural sector plays a strategic role in the process of economic development of a country. It has already made a significant contribution to the economic prosperity of advanced countries and its role in the economic development of less developed countries is of vital importance. In other words, where per capita real income is low, the emphasis is being laid on agriculture and other primary industries. Agricultural development has helped to a greater extent in the process of their industrialization. Similarly, various under-developed countries of the world engaged in the process of economic development have by now learned the limitations of putting over-emphasis on industrialization as a means to attain higher per capita real income. "Thus industrial and agricultural developments are not alternatives but are complementary and are mutually supporting concerning both inputs and outputs."

Agriculture can be an important engine of growth and poverty reduction. But the sector is underperforming in many countries in part because women, who are often a crucial resource in agriculture and the rural economy, face constraints that reduce their productivity. In this study we draw on the available empirical evidence to study in which areas and to what degree women participate in agriculture. Aggregate data shows that women comprise about 43 percent of the agricultural labour force globally and in developing countries. But this figure masks considerable variation across regions and within countries according to age and social class. Time

use surveys, which are more comprehensive but typically not nationally representative, add further insight into the substantial heterogeneity among countries and within countries in women's contribution to agriculture. They show that female time-use in agriculture varies also by crop, production cycle, age and ethnic group. A few time-use surveys have data by activity and these show that in general weeding and harvesting were predominantly female activities. Overall the labour burden of rural women exceeds that of men, and includes a higher proportion of unpaid household responsibilities related to preparing food and collecting fuel and water. The contribution of women to agricultural and food production is significant but it is impossible to verify empirically the share produced by women. Women's participation in rural labour markets varies considerably across regions, but invariably women are over represented in unpaid, seasonal and part-time work, and the available evidence suggests that women are often paid less than men, for the same work. Available data on rural and agricultural feminization shows that this is not a general trend but mainly a vijayapura district phenomena, as well as observed in some sectors such as unskilled labour in the fruit, vegetable and cut-flower export sector. This study re-affirms that women make essential contributions to agriculture and rural enterprises across the developing world. But there is much diversity in women's roles and over-generalization undermines policy relevance and planning. The context is important and policies must be based on sound data and gender analysis.

Vijayapura is located in the north western part of the state and spread across 11 taluks, namely Vijayapura, Basavana Bagewadi, Indi, Muddebihal, Sindagi, Tikota, Bableshwar, Nidgundi, Devarahippargi, Talikoti, Chadachan and Kolar.

1.1 Economic Profile of Vijayapura District

The total Gross District Domestic Product (GDDP) of the district estimated during the year 2012-13 is Rs. 5,608 crore. In the year 2012-13, the per capita annual income of the district was Rs.45, 912.

1.2 Industrial profile of Vijayapura District

The district is occupied by three types of soils they are black soils, red sandy soils and mixed soils and per capita cultivable land is 3.2 ha. It consists of 8 cold storages, out of which 2 are for milk products and fruits and vegetables.

1.3 Agriculture & Food Processing of Vijayapura District

Agribusiness and food processing are the predominant industries in the district, employing highest number of people in the small scale segment. Proposal for food processing zone for the high agri-potential at Vijayapura. Approximately 35 percent of the total MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprise) units in the district are engaged in food and beverages. One of the dominant players in this region is Basaveshwara Agro Food Processing Limited engaged in ketchups, chutneys, pickles, etc.

1.4 Contribution of Vijayapura district to GSDP of Karnataka

Description	INR Crore	Contribution %
Total District GDP (Gross Domestic Product)	5608	1.8
Agriculture and Allied (Agriculture, Animal husbandry, Forestry, Fishing)	1543	3.6
Industry (Manufacturing, Construction, Mining)	1355	1.6
Services (Real estate, hotels, restaurants, banking and legal services)	2710	1.5

(Source: State and District Domestic Product of Karnataka-2014-15.)

*GSDP – Gross State Domestic Product

1.5 Rainfall and Climate of Vijayapura district

The district experiences semi-arid climate with extreme summers. It enjoys a climate with hot summers and chilly winters. Incidence of drought occurs due to inadequate and erratic distribution of rainfall in space and time. The dust storms and severe heat waves are common during April and May months. The district experiences the temperature variation between 200C and 420C. The temperature begins to rise by the end of February, till the month May, which is the hottest month. Coldest months are December and January. The year is divided in to summer season from March to May, monsoon season from June to September, post-monsoon season from October to November. The highest monthly rainfall recorded 149.2 mm in September and the lowest is 3.4 mm in the month of February. The district receives an average annual rainfall of 578 mm and taluk wise normal

rainfall of the district is given in Table.4. The normal rainfall of the district received is varied from 569 to 595 mm and the normal rainy days also varied from 36.5 to 39.5 mm in the year.

1.6 Concept of Women Farmers

The definition of a farmer is a person who owns, works on or operates an agricultural enterprise, either commercially or to sustain himself or her family.

1.7 Characteristics of Women Farmers

1. Women have extensive workloads with dual responsibility for farm and household production.
2. Women's work is getting harder and more time-consuming due to ecological degradation and changing agricultural technologies and practices.
3. Women have an active role and extensive involvement in livestock production, forest resource use and fishery processing.
4. Women contribute considerably to household income through farm and nonfarm activities as well as through work as landless agricultural labourers.
5. Women's work as family labour is underestimated.
6. The nature and extent of women's involvement differs with the variations in agro-production systems.

7. The mode of female participation in agricultural production varies with the land-owning status of farm households.
8. The role of women ranges from managers to landless labourers.

1.8 Concept of Labour

Any work manual or mental undertaken for certain pecuniary consideration is termed as 'labour' in economics. All labour is directed towards producing some effect or change. This of course excludes activity undertaken with an objective of amusement merely for own sake, it does not constitute as labour. (Marshall Alfred, 1964) has defined labour as, "Any exertion of mind or body undergone partly or wholly with a view to some good other than the pleasure, derived directly from the work." Labour in this sense includes, the very highest professional skill of all kind as well as the labour of unskilled workers and artisans and of those employed in education, in fine arts, in literature, in science, in administration of justice and in the Government in all its branches.

1.9 Characteristics of Agricultural Labour

The following are the main characteristics which differentiate agrarian labour from industrial labour (Bhagoliwal, T.N., 1976):-

1. There is usually a lack of clear cut employer - employee relationship in agriculture, especially in subsistence farming, as opposed to industry.
2. In agriculture there is usually no classification of workers into skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour. There are only two types of

agricultural labourers employed either for casual work or for regular farm work, on a continuing basis.

3. Employment in agriculture is mostly seasonal with varying intensity depending upon regional characteristics and crop pattern. This seasonal activity is followed by a slack period, for which agricultural workers have to seek alternative sources of employment, like road construction and building operations etc.
4. Migration is another distinctive feature. In busy season, agricultural labourers migrate from regions where labour is relatively abundant to regions where it is scarce.
5. Wage payment in agriculture also show considerable diversity. Payment of wages in kind or partly in cash and partly in kind is quite common. Payment of supplementary wages in the form of perquisites is also made to labourers. Wages for some agricultural operations like harvesting and threshing are paid in kind on basis of piece wage rate; wage structure in agriculture is considerably influenced by traditions and customs.

1.10 Characteristics of Women Agricultural Labours

Agricultural labourers, especially in smaller villages away from towns and cities, are generally unskilled workers carrying on agricultural operation in the centuries old traditional wages. Most agricultural workers belong to the depressed classes, which have been neglected for ages. The low caste and depressed classes have been socially handicapped and they

never had the courage to assert themselves. In some parts of India, agricultural labourers are migratory, moving in search of jobs at the time of harvesting. The number of agricultural labourers being very large and skills they possess being meager, there is generally more than abundant supply of agricultural labourers in relation to demand for them. It is only during the sowing and harvesting seasons that there appears to be near full employment in the case of agricultural labourers. But, once the harvesting season is over, majority of agricultural workers will be jobless especially in areas, where there is single cropping pattern. Due to all the above mentioned factors, the bargaining power and position of agricultural labourers in India is very weak. In fact, quite a large number of them are in the grip of village money lenders, landlords and commission agents, often the same person functioning in all the three capacities.

1.11 Role of Agriculture in Economic Development

The agriculture sector is the backbone of an economy which provides the basic ingredients to mankind and now raw material for industrialization.

1. Contribution to National Income

He lessons drawn from the economic history of many advanced countries tell us that agricultural prosperity contributed considerably to fostering economic advancement.

2. Source of Food Supply

Agriculture is the basic source of the food supply of all the countries of the world—whether underdeveloped, developing or even developed. Due to the heavy pressure of population in underdeveloped and developing countries and its rapid increase, the demand for food is increasing at a fast rate.

3. Pre-Requisite for Raw Material

Agricultural advancement is necessary for improving the supply of raw materials for the agro-based industries, especially in developing countries.

4. The Shift of Manpower

Initially, agriculture absorbs a large quantity of labor force. In India still, about 62% labor is absorbed in this sector. Agricultural progress permits the shift of manpower from agricultural to non-agricultural sector.

5. Creation of Infrastructure

The development of agriculture requires roads, market yards, storage, transportation railways, postal services and many others for an infrastructure creating demand for industrial products and the development of the commercial sector.

6. Relief from Shortage of Capital

The development of the agricultural sector has minimized the burden of several developed countries that were facing the shortage of foreign capital. If foreign capital is available with the 'strings' attached to it, it will create another significant problem. Agriculture sector requires less capital for its development. Thus it minimizes growth problem of foreign capital.

8. Create Effective Demand

The development of the agricultural sector would tend to increase the purchasing power of agriculturists which will help the growth of the non-agricultural sector of the country.

9. Employment Opportunities for Rural People

Agriculture provides employment opportunities for rural people on a large scale in underdeveloped and developing countries. It is an important source of livelihood.

10. Improving Rural Welfare

It is time that rural economy depends on agriculture and allied occupations in an underdeveloped country. The rising agricultural surplus caused by increasing agricultural production and productivity tends to improve social welfare, particularly in rural areas.

2. Statement of Problem

An empirical research is that which reports the results of a study that uses data derived from actual observation or experimentation. Empirical essentially means based on observation. This study is empirical by nature, as the researcher is concerned to develop principles by arriving at generalizations and an aid to solve problems by improving knowledge, understanding skill and ability to make decisions.

3. General Objectives of the Study

1. Land/ cattle possession and their ownership by the Vijayapura District female farmers.

2. Decision making rights viz-a-viz use of land, plants and livestock.
3. Employment intensity (Number of hours worked/day).
4. Access to production resources, inputs, credit and technology of rural female farmers of Vijayapura District.
5. The gender participation in crop production and animal husbandry and related activities in the rural area of Vijayapura District.

Specific Objectives of the Study

1. To assess their views on farming/family roles, integrated farming, Value addition and technology.
2. To assess their indigenous knowledge related to their farms/animals.
3. To assess the tangible and intangible contribution they are making to the Vijayapura District.

4. Hypothesis of the Study

1. There is no discrimination in ownership of property (land/cattle) by women formers in Vijayapura district.
2. There is no more farming females of rural area possess large landholdings Vijayapura district.
3. There is no more of females cultivators rather than agriculture labours are there Vijayapura district.
4. There is no discrimination in accessibility of farming females of rural area to production resources of Vijayapura district.
5. There is no discrimination in accessibility of farming females of rural area to production inputs.

6. More farming females of rural area are not aware regarding Technology and Govt. policies.
7. More farming females of rural area hold the positive view for their participation in farming/ family roles.
8. Women are not consulted for decision making in farm, animal and related activities in Vijayapura district.
9. Participation in farm, animal and related activities by women is more than that of men.
10. Women work for longer duration than men in farm, animal and related activities.

5. Importance of the Study

The Role of Women's Farmer and Agriculture Labours in Economic Development in Vijayapura District: A Sociological Study. The position of women in agriculture in India is unique and initiates agriculture. History tells the woman that she was the first woman to master agriculture. The woman was taught by the woman after she learned it. While the wild animals were hunting for a pedestal, the senseless woman kept her eyes on natural crops.

6. Review of Literature

This review explains conceptual issues related to the assessment of status of female farmer in general and female farmer in agriculture in particular. This will helps to resolve the problem encountered in the earlier studies and to concentrate on the aspects which need more systematic

examination. So, an attempt is made to synthesize the conclusions of the earlier studies on female farmer in agriculture.

Padmanabhan (2001) argued that women are engaged in agriculture and allied activities and their role are managers to landless labour. Migration of male labour leaving women in rural areas and they are the income earners in agriculture in rural areas. To empower rural women in agriculture through effective training and extension services and welfare schemes to improve the working conditions of agricultural women.

Dogra (2002)49 in his article discussed about women a farm worker which is basically in unorganized sector. He pointed out that women farm workers are generally the double victims of class based exploitation and gender based discrimination. Due to their economically precarious condition they generally agree to work at very low wages for sheer subsistence. There have been very few movements to resist the injustice. Researcher gave more importance to 'Disha', a voluntary organization active in Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh, has played a notable role in the mobilization of women farm workers and asserting their equal rights.

Jyoti Kachroo (2005) studied on rural farm women's contributing to family income in Jammu district, argues that despite they are agricultural workers, who contribution significantly in cultivation and dairy income little in wage but overall contribution of females towards family income is very high which always remains unaccountable and therefore, it is

suggested that the employment policies for the rural women may be framed.

Shilpa (2018) from Chikkabalapur District Chintamani Taluk. She was born a normal farmer family. She is like very happy to work on Swati rain in all climates for best women farmer in this district. she got several award like former Prime Mister Shree H.D. Devegowda. She was started 11 year ago to a former in her village with 10 Acres she will earn every year 12-13 Lacks.

7. Methodology

Sampling Method

Multi-stage stratified random sampling technique of probability method is used to select the population from circles, revenue blocks and villages, and then a combination of Judgment, Convenience and Quota sampling techniques of non-probability methods is decided upon for this study. Non-probability methods are of three types, namely Judgment, Convenience and Quota sampling. The state has only Vijayapura district; so, all of them have been taken for the study. Initially, under the multistage stratified random sampling technique- a selection of a tentative list of circles and revenue blocks from all the four taluka will be made followed by a selection of villages to be visited at the second and a selection of respondents at the final stage. A final list of the respondents from different farm households shall prepared based on convenience and their accessibility to the researcher by stratified random sampling.

Tools for the data collection

To collect the data from various respondents researcher shall be adopted different tools. To collect the primary data researcher will be visited many villages and Talukas Places.

Questionnaire

The researcher shall be chosen questionnaire method of data collection. It is a set of questions where respondents have given reactions on each questions. Each question having options; which means it shall be consist open ended.

Data Collection Methods

Primary Data

In order to collect qualitative data, three group discussion sessions were arranged separately in Vijayapura district villages each group contained 10 participants. During these group sessions, several open-ended questions were asked from the respondents in order to collect deeper information about their accessibility to resources and their participation in different farms and the related activities along with many hidden facts and factors. Based on this information, the research instrument i.e. questionnaire containing dichotomous, multiple choice and open end questions will be designed. Primary data shall be collected by researcher by visiting the farming females of rural area in Vijayapura District, using questionnaires.

Secondary Data

Secondary information has been collected online, from magazine, journals and also from the libraries of various universities. Besides this, data has also been collected from National Sample Survey Report, Census of India, relevant Central and State Government publications, Central and State agriculture, labour, women and child development department.

Data Analysis

As the nature of data collected is non-metric which is also referred as qualitative data, the ordinal scale of measurement is taken into account for access of a rural woman to productive resources, in decision making of different activities and to understand their views concerning different question which shall been direct bearing with the topic. Nominal scale of measurement is taken into account for their participation in farm, animal and related activities, ownership of livestock and land, credit status, education level, home responsibility status and membership status of any rural institution, in selecting a statistical tool and techniques for hypotheses testing. Data shall been analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) and some descriptive statistics, such as percentage, mean, standard deviation (SD), coefficient of variation (CV) and rank were used for descriptive interpretation of the data.

8. Limitations of the Study

1. The Study is limited to Vijayapura District
2. This study is limited only to the women of Indi and Sindagi Taluk in Vijayapur district of Karnataka state.

3. The study will be elaborating only about women framers and labours in the study area.

9. Chapterization

Chapter -I

It contains the introduction of the thesis, which includes location and characteristics (the geographic, demographic and general) of the study area i.e. Vijayapura District, characteristics of the agriculture sector, challenges of it in Vijayapura in particular and in the developing nations in general, their remedial measures, Agriculture sector in Vijayapura, different allied agriculture sector and the extension services. Furthermore, the chapter winds up by expounding about the status of women, female labour in agricultural sector and the research question.

Chapter –II

Consists of the literature survey which is subdivided into five categories that include gender wise participation/ownership in farm/animal and related activities, females in decision making in farming, access of rural women to productive resources in farming, women in agriculture and allied sector, challenges faced by women while working in farms. Finally, the chapter concludes the literature survey followed by the research gap. The survey covers the developing Vijayapura District.

Chapter –III

The methodology used during fieldwork undertaken from Vijayapura district of Karnataka is described and a detailed description of the methods employed for data collection and its analysis is included.

Chapter –IV

Result analysis and findings of the primary data collected is covered in this chapter which is based on the statistical tools applied and the validation of the acceptances or rejection of the hypotheses. The chapter also includes the model and the flow diagram of integrated low investment rain-water harvesting.

Chapter –V

This chapter contains conclusion of the findings of the research and justifies it with the references of the assorted authors from literature review of India and other countries. The chapter wraps up with the suggestions for women from agriculture and its allied sectors for possible directions for future research.

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